1	2	3	4
August 2008	1268.88	857.50	815.00
Sept. 2008	1162.75	933.75	777.13
October 2008	985.10	945.50	436.60
November 2008	654.66	917.50	254.38

(c) and (d) The producers of fertilizers are entitled to get subsidy as per the declared policy from time to time. As per policy, any benefits, if accrues, passed to producers.

Increase in prices of medicines

1288. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of increase registered in the prices of medicines during the last three years;

(b) whether permission to increase the price of any medicine has been sought from the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details of the permission given for price hike including the names of these medicines; and

(d) the details of the medicines, the prices of which have been reduced during the above mentioned period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) The prices of 74 bulk drugs specified in the First Schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) and the formulations based thereon are controlled in accordance with the provisions of the DPCO, 95 by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA). Fixation/revision of prices of bulk drugs and formulations is an on-going exercise undertaken by the NPPA.

Details of increase/decrease in the prices of bulk drugs and their percentage during the last three years is as follows:

	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		Total From 2005-06 to 2007-08	
	Nos.	%age	Nos.	%age	Nos.	%age	Nos.	%age
No. of Bulk Drugs where price increased	8	10.26	8	15.69	9	13.85	25	12.89
No. of Bulk Drugs where price decreased	68	87.18	42	82.35	50	76.92	160	82.47
No. of Bulk Drugs where price fixed for first time	2	2.56	1	1.96	3	4.62	6	3.09
No change in price	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	4.62	3	1.55
TOTAL	78		51		65		194	

Prices of non-Scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view various factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, R&D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. Prices of these drugs are regularly monitored and corrective measures taken where public interest is found to be adversely affected. As regards the percentage increase/decrease registered in the prices of non-Scheduled formulations during the last three years it may be stated that information is too voluminous to furnish with the reply.

Shortage of fertilizers in Kerala

1289. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of Phosphatic fertilizers in Kerala for the past many months;

(b) if so, the action taken and the details of firms supplying Phosphatic fertilizers in Kerala including the requirement and quantity supplied for the last one year, month-wise, firm-wise and category-wise;

(c) whether short supply of Di-ammonium phosphate (DAP) for the last season had been reported to the Competent Authority; and

(d) if so, the details of the firm supplying DAP in Kerala including the requirement and the quantity supplied for the last one year, month-wise, firm-wise and category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under partial movement and distribution control of the Government. Union Government ensures availability of urea at State level. State Governments are responsible for its distribution within the State. All other fertilizers *viz.* DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled/ de-canalized since 1992. The availability of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers is decided by the market forces of demand and supply.

The table below gives the details of demand and supply of phosphatic fertilizers in the State of Kerala as well as all India level during the year 2008-09 (upto November, 2008)

('000 MT)

State	DAP			NPK		
	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales
Kerala	25.30	19.34	19.29	136.06	129.66	127.89
All India	7581.84	8265.83	8260.34	7043.85	5355.48	5314.40

The low availability of phosphatic fertilizers in Kerala is attributable to non-issuance of Fertilizer Registration Certificate (FRC) by Government of Kerala to M/s Coromandal Fertilizers Ltd. and M/s Zuari Industries Limited who were advised to supply 4500 MT and 3000 MT of DAP to Kerala. Monthwise requirement, availability and sale of DAP & NPK fertilizers during Kharif, 2008 for Kerala State is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) to (d) The details of firms supplying phosphatic fertilizers in Kerala alongwith monthwise supplies during the year 2008-09 (from April, 2008 to November, 2008) is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).